

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 16-19 are canceled. Claim 3 is amended as an independent claim and claim 20 is amended to depend from claim 4. No new matter is presented. Accordingly, claims 3-15 and 20 will be all of the claims pending in the application.

I. Claim Rejections

Claims 1-5 and 8-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Walkow (DD-223265 published June 5, 1985), a copy of which is attached to the Office Action.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Walkow.

II. Applicants' Response

Applicants respectfully submit that Walkow does not disclose, teach or suggest the presently claimed invention.

Claims 1, 2 and 16-19 are canceled herein, thereby rendering the rejections moot as to these claims.

Claim 3 is rewritten as an independent claim and recites a diazonium salt represented by formula (3). Walkow does not disclose, teach or suggest the diazonium salt of formula (3). Specifically, the diazonium salt of formula (3) of the present invention has O—R¹² wherein R¹² is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or an aryl group at the 5th position of the benzothiazole ring. On the other hand, Walkow does not disclose, teach or suggest a diazonium salt having O-R¹² at the 5th position of the benzothiazole ring. Thus, Walkow does not disclose, teach or suggest

all elements of the presently claimed invention and therefore does not anticipate nor render obvious the presently claimed invention.

Claims 4-15 and 20 depend directly or indirectly from claim 3 as amended and are distinguished over the art of record for at least the same reasons.

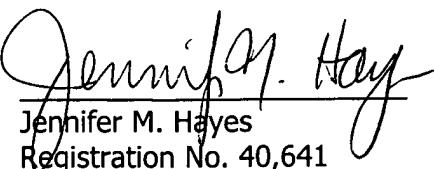
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Walkow.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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